

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-18. Cancelled.

19. (Currently amended) An ophthalmic surgery system comprising an ophthalmic measurement apparatus and a refractive correction surgery apparatus, wherein the ophthalmic measurement apparatus comprises:

optometry means for ~~examining or~~ measuring a patient's eye to obtain measurement data on ~~power or a corneal shape~~ of the eye necessary for refractive correction;

first photographing means for photographing an anterior segment of the eye; first identification code acquiring means for extracting a characteristic an iris pattern, which is inherently unique to the eye, by processing a first image of the eye anterior segment photographed by the first photographing means during the measurement of the eye, and obtaining a first identification code based on the extracted characteristic iris pattern; and

storage means for storing the obtained measurement data or surgical data for the refractive correction generated based on the obtained measurement data in association with the obtained first identification code, and

output means for outputting the measurement data or the surgical data along with the associated first identification code which are stored in the storage means, and wherein the refractive correction surgery apparatus comprises:

surgery means for performing surgery for the refractive correction on the eye
~~based on the surgical data by irradiating a cornea of the eye with a laser beam for~~
ablation;

second photographing means for photographing the eye anterior segment;
second identification code acquiring means for extracting the characteristic iris
pattern by processing a second image of the eye anterior segment photographed by the
second photographing means for positioning the eye before the irradiation of the laser
beam, and obtaining a second identification code based on the extracted characteristic
iris pattern;

comparison means for comparing the first identification code received from the
ophthalmic measurement apparatus and the obtained second identification code to
judge whether the first identification code and the second identification code match; and

permission means for permitting the surgery to be performed by the surgery
means, based on the surgical data received from the ophthalmic measurement
apparatus or permitting the surgical data to be generated based on the obtained
measurement data or the surgical data to be used received from the ophthalmic
measurement apparatus when the comparison means judges that the first identification
code and the second identification code match.

20-26. Cancelled.

27. (Currently Amended) An ophthalmic system comprising an eye
examination apparatus ~~for obtaining examination data on a patient's eye and~~
~~photographing the eye~~, and a data management apparatus:

wherein the eye examination apparatus comprises:

optometry means for measuring a patient's eye to obtain measurement data on the eye necessary for refractive correction;

photographing means for photographing an anterior segment of the eye;

first identification code acquiring means for extracting a characteristic an iris pattern, which is inherently unique to the eye, by processing a first image of the eye anterior segment photographed by the examination apparatus photographing means during the measurement of the eye, and obtaining a first identification code based on the extracted characteristic iris pattern; and

first storage means for storing the examination obtained measurement data obtained by the examination apparatus or surgical data for the refractive correction generated based on the obtained measurement data in association with the obtained first identification code as an examination data file; and

wherein the data management apparatus comprises:

input means for inputting a second image of the eye anterior segment;

second identification code acquiring means for extracting the characteristic iris pattern by processing [[a]] the input second image of the eye, and obtaining a second identification code based on the extracted characteristic iris pattern;

second storage associating means for storing associating the obtained second identification code so as to compare with the first identification code with a data storage area;

comparison means for comparing the first identification code received from the eye examination apparatus and the second identification code to judge whether the first identification code and the second identification code match; and

third second storage means for storing the examination measurement data or the surgical data in association with the first identification code received from the eye examination apparatus in [[a]] the data storage area assigned by in association with the second identified code when the comparison means judges that the first identification code and the second identification code match; and

second output means for outputting the measurement data or the surgical data along with the associated second identification code which are stored in the second storage means to a refractive correction surgery apparatus for the refractive correction.

28-29. Cancelled.

30. (New) An ophthalmic system comprising an eye examination apparatus and a data management apparatus,

wherein the eye examination apparatus comprises:

optometry means for measuring a patient's eye to obtain measurement data on the eye necessary for refractive correction;

photographing means for photographing an anterior segment of the eye;

identification code acquiring means for extracting an iris pattern, which is inherently unique to the eye, by processing an image of the eye anterior segment photographed by the photographing means during the measurement of the eye, and obtaining an identification code based on the extracted iris pattern;

first storage means for storing the obtained measurement data or surgical data for the refractive correction generated based on the obtained measurement data in association with the obtained identification code; and

first output means for outputting the measurement data or the surgical data along with the associated identification code which are stored in the first storage means, and the data management apparatus comprises:

second storage means for storing the measurement data or the surgical data along with the associated identification code which are received from the eye examination apparatus into a data storage area and associating the identification code with the data storage area;

comparison means for comparing the identification code stored in the second storage means and the identification code newly received from the eye examination apparatus to judge whether the stored identification code and the newly received identification code match;

assigning means for assigning the measurement data or the surgical data newly received from the eye examination apparatus in the data storage area in association with the identification code when the comparison means judges that the stored identification code and the newly received identification code match; and

second output means for outputting the measurement data or the surgical data along with the identification code which are stored in the second storage means to a refractive correction surgery apparatus for the refractive correction.